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Phil a Dec 30/57

Dear Garrison:

I want to recall to your mind some facts which you have probably forgotten, - or of which you possibly may have never had any knowledge. My object in doing so will be seen before I have done.

Some ^{4 or} 5 or 6 years ago there appeared in the 4th page of the Liberator an article reflecting severely on the clergy of Lowell & intimating I believe that they were in the practice of persecuting in some clerical way the factory girls out of their wages. My father-in-law Micajah Sheekman of Chester Co. an old subscriber to the Liberator & at that time a strong advocate of it, had occasion to quote this article in a conversation with the Member of Congress from his district, as a proof of some charge which he was preferring against the clergy. His opponent, the Member of Congress, pronounced the article to be false. My father-in-law took an opportunity soon after this to write to you to know what authorities you had for publishing it - not doubting him

self however that it was true & that you would
give him ^{ample} ~~the~~ warrant for its publication.
He received no answer, and wrote again.
Still he received no reply. Seeing that he
took it a good deal to heart, and —
though attaching very little importance to
the matter myself — wishing that his mind
might be made easy by a word of explanation
him, I wrote to you myself stating to you
the circumstances of the case. Having
done this the whole subject passed
out of my mind. But not so with
Mr. Shakerman. I have since discovered
that he has ever since felt exceedingly
pained, mortified & irritated about it.
He was mortified to be caught in quo-
ting for a fact what was denied & what
he was utterly unable to know, & pained
& irritated that, four different letters to
you, (for it appears he wrote to you ^{again} after
my letter referred to) written he says in
respectful language had failed to elicit
a word of reply.

Now I think it quite possible that
part of these letters may have never reached

You & I have no doubt that the whole
thing is susceptible of an easy explanation
without making you chargeable with any
wilful slight or intentional disrespect
in the matter, and under ordinary cir-
cumstances I should have said nothing
to you about it; but just now my father-
in-law is in very poor health. He is old
& fast declining, and his children are an-
xious to do all they can to minister to
his comfort. The only medicaments that can
do him good must be of a mental kind,
and I know of nothing that would be
more likely to be of service in this way than
something that would explain your appar-
ent disrespect to him & re-instate him
in possession of his former good opinion of
the Liberator & its Editor. Will you not
drop me a line on this subject, &
line so phrased as will do for me to
put in an envelope & send to him
by mail?

Yours most truly
W. L. Garrison
J. M. McKim

For a I have no doubt that the
thing is for the sake of an early
contract making for the sake of
making the best of the matter
in the matter, and making
arrangements I have been making
to you about it, but just now my father
is here in an early hour, and he is
a little thinking and his children are
given to me all the time to
his own part. He has been thinking
for some time of a business
and making a little that would be
more like a book in the way of
something that would be more
out of the way to him or make him
in keeping his form for the sake of
the business. He is with me and
both one of the things that
line for the sake of the
but in an business, and to him
I want?